

On page 1, after the first complete paragraph, please insert the section heading as follows:

2. Description of the Related Art

On page 1, after the fourth complete paragraph, please insert the section heading as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 5, before the first complete paragraph, please insert the section heading as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 5, before the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6, please insert the section heading as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel the previous versions of Claims 1-28 and insert the amended versions as follows. (Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121, marked-up versions of these claims are attached.)

1. (Amended) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween, and a gate for closing the gap, the gate being formed of a wire member shaped and located on one free end of the body, such that the gate is constrained to close the gap and an other free end of the body having a slot for receiving a shaped end of the gate.

2. (Amended) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gate is formed by the wire that is bent double and has each free end further bent inwards towards the other to locate in a different hole on opposite sides of the one free end of the body, one hole being above the other.